

July 15, 2003

I. Dodd Wilson, MD, Chancellor University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences 4301 W. Markham, Slot 541 Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

Re: Advisory Opinion #483-03-12

Dear Chancellor Wilson:

This letter is in response to your request for an advisory opinion in accordance with §19-11-715(b) of the Arkansas Code Annotated of 1987. Your request for an advisory opinion is based on the following facts:

- (a) Dr. Jay Gandy, PhD is employed by UAMS and has been released to work one half of his time for the Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health (CTEH).
- (b) Dr. Gandy is principle owner and founder of the Center and has a greater than 10% ownership.
- (c) You are requesting an advisory opinion regarding the ability of the CTEH to bid on and perform work for UAMS and other state agencies

Executive Order 98-04 at Regulation 4C(2) allows agencies to "enter into, extend, amend or renew a contract, lease or purchase agreement with a board or commission member, state employee, the immediate family member of any of these, or any entity in which any of these persons has an ownership interest of 10% or greater if the contract is the result of competitive sealed bidding or a request for proposal".

Accordingly, CTEH and Dr. Gandy may contract with state agencies when the award is the result of a competitive bid or request for proposal.

This advisory opinion is issued in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated §19-11-715(b) and compliance with the above course of conduct is deemed to constitute compliance with the ethical standards of the Act.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Weiss Director

Cc: Suzanne Leslie, UAMS Cherry Duckett, UAMS Joe Giddis, OSP Tom Gay, Office of Atty Gen.